

What is claimed is:

1. A laser intensity adjusting method of adjusting
a maximum intensity of a laser exposure mechanism for
irradiating laser light to a surface of a photoreceptor to
5 which a uniform potential is being given by a corona
discharger, the method comprising:

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a coarse-division potential detecting step of (i)
exposing photoreceptor surface portions to laser lights of
a plurality of laser intensities obtained by coarsely
10 dividing a predetermined laser intensity, and (ii) de-
tecting potentials of the photoreceptor surface portions
exposed to the laser lights of the plurality of laser
intensities;

a fine-division potential detecting step of (i)
15 further finely dividing, in the vicinity of a laser
intensity corresponding to a potential which is a nearest
to a predetermined set potential out of the potentials
detected at the coarse-division potential detecting step,
the predetermined laser intensity to set a plurality of
20 laser intensities, (ii) exposing photoreceptor surface
portions to laser lights of the plurality of laser
intensities thus set, and (iii) detecting potentials of the
photoreceptor surface portions exposed to the laser lights
of the plurality of laser intensities; and

25 a step of (i) repeating the fine-division potential

detecting step until there is obtained potential equal to or substantially equal to the predetermined set potential, and (ii) setting, as the maximum intensity, the laser intensity corresponding to the potential thus obtained.

5 2. A laser intensity adjusting method of adjusting a maximum intensity of a laser exposure mechanism for irradiating laser light to a surface of a photoreceptor to which a uniform potential is being given by a corona discharger, the method comprising:

10 a first potential detecting step of (i) exposing photoreceptor surface portions to laser lights of a plurality of laser intensities set at first intervals, and (ii) detecting potentials of the photoreceptor surface portions exposed to the laser lights of the plurality of
15 laser intensities;

 a second potential detecting step of (i) exposing photoreceptor surface portions to laser lights of a plurality of laser intensities which are set, at second intervals smaller than the first intervals, in the vicinity
20 of a laser intensity with which there has been detected, at the first potential detecting step, a potential which is a nearest to a predetermined set potential, and (ii) detecting potentials of the photoreceptor surface portions exposed to the laser lights of the plurality of laser
25 intensities; and

a step of setting, as the maximum intensity of the laser exposure mechanism, a laser intensity with which there has been detected, at the first or second potential detecting step, potential equal to or substantially equal to
5 the predetermined set potential.

3. A laser intensity adjusting method according to Claim 2, wherein

the second potential detecting step is repeated until there is obtained potential equal to or substantially equal
10 to the predetermined set potential.

4. A laser intensity adjusting method according to Claim 2, wherein

the laser intensities set at first and second potential detecting steps have values selected from a plurality of laser intensities obtained by dividing the
15 predetermined laser intensity by a predetermined number.

5. A laser intensity adjusting method according to Claim 4, wherein

the predetermined laser intensity is set to a value
20 which is considered to be greater than a suitable maximum intensity.